

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strike through~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1-16 and ADD new claims 17-19 in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for subjecting a radiation image to an image processing to image a target by using a photography device, comprising:
an image processing condition storing section ~~for storing~~to store an image processing condition when the radiation image is subjected to the image processing in accordance with a type of the photography device ~~type~~ and a part of the target~~photography part~~ when the radiation image is obtained;
A4 a data obtaining section ~~for~~to obtaining the radiation image, and the type of the photography device ~~type~~ and the part of the target~~photography part~~ when the radiation image is obtained; and
an image processing section ~~for~~to reading the image processing condition for the same type of the photography device ~~type~~ and the same photography part of the target as the type of the photography device ~~type~~ and the part of the target~~photography part~~ obtained by said data obtaining section from said image processing condition storing section, and to subjecting the radiation image obtained by said data obtaining section to the image processing in accordance with the ~~read~~ image processing condition read by the image processing section.

2. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for subjecting a medical image to an image processing by using a photography device, comprising:
an image processing condition storing section ~~for storing~~to store an image processing condition when the medical image is subjected to the image processing in accordance with a type of the photography device ~~type~~ and a photography condition when the medical image is obtained;

a data obtaining section ~~for to obtaining~~ the medical image, and the type of the photography device ~~type~~ and the photography condition when the medical image is obtained; and

an image processing section ~~for to reading~~ the image processing condition ~~for the~~ same type of the photography device ~~type~~ and the same photography condition as the type of the photography device ~~type~~ and the photography condition obtained by said data obtaining section from said image processing condition storing section, and to subjecting the medical image obtained by said data obtaining section to the image processing in accordance with the ~~read~~ image processing condition read by the image processing section.

3. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said image processing section subjects the medical image obtained by said data processing-obtaining section to at least a gradation conversion processing and a frequency emphasis processing, and

said image processing condition storing section stores a frequency emphasis function indicating a degree of frequency emphasis in which a gradation conversion function and an average density around respective points of the medical image are used as variables in accordance with the type of the photography device ~~type~~ and the photography condition.

4. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein, before the gradation conversion processing, said image processing section subjects the medical image, obtained by said data obtaining section, to a luminance correction processing using a dynamic range compression function in which the average density around the respective points of the medical image is used as the variable.

5. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

an image processing condition operating section to~~for~~ adding, to change~~changing~~, and to delete~~deleting~~ said image processing condition in response to an operation.

6. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

an image display section ~~for~~to displaying the medical image subjected to the image processing by said image processing section.

7. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising:

an interested area designating section ~~for designating to designate~~ an ~~desired~~-area of interest on the medical image displayed in said image display section in response to ~~the~~an operation,

wherein said image display section lowers a luminance of an area₁ excluding the area of interest designated by said interested area designating section₁ to display the medical image.

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8. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 7 wherein said interested area designating section designates the ~~desired~~-area of interest on the medical image displayed in said image display section and designates a coefficient indicating a degree of drop of the luminance of the area₁ excluding the area of interest₁ in response to the operation, and

said image display section lowers the luminance of the area₁ excluding the area of interest designated by said interested area designating section₁ down to ~~the~~a luminance in accordance with the coefficient designated by said interested area designating section to display the medical image.

9. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising:

a part recognizing section ~~for recognizing to recognize~~ positions of a plurality of parts appearing in ~~one~~the medical image,

wherein said image processing section subjects the area of interest₁ designated by said interested area designating section₁ to the image processing in accordance with a respective one of the plurality of parts appearing in the area of interest₁ and being among the plurality of parts having positions thereof which are recognized by said part recognizing section.

10. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 7₁ wherein said image display section arranges and displays a plurality of medical images, and

said image display section applies a common ~~the same~~ area of interest as that of the area of interest designated by said interested area designating section with respect to one medical image among the plurality of medical images displayed in the image display section to the plurality of medical images, and in each of the medical images ~~the a~~ lowers the a luminance of a common ~~the~~ area, excluding the common area of interest ~~of each medical image~~ to display the plurality of medical images.

11. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising:

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a scanning processing designating section ~~for designating~~ to designate, in response to an operation, a scanning processing to set of setting the an area of interest on the medical image displayed in said image display section and to move ~~moving~~ the area of interest in a predetermined direction ~~in response to the operation,~~

wherein said image display section displays, in accordance with the scanning processing by said scanning processing designating section, the medical image in which the area of interest successively moves, and the a luminance of the an area, excluding the area of interest, is lowered ~~in response to designation of the scanning processing by said scanning processing designating section.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising:

a part recognizing section ~~for recognizing~~ to recognize positions of a plurality of parts appearing in ~~one the~~ the medical image,

wherein said image processing section subjects the ~~successively moving~~ area of interest, which is successively moved, to the image processing in accordance with a respective one of the plurality of parts appearing in the ~~successively moving~~ area of interest, which is successively moved, and being among the plurality of parts having positions thereof which are recognized by said part recognizing section.

13. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said image display section arranges and displays, in accordance with the scanning processing by said scanning processing designating section, a plurality of medical images each

having a common area of interest, which is common between the plurality of medical images, the common areas being set at corresponding positions and with corresponding timings and synchronously moved at corresponding speeds~~sets the same area of interest in the same position at the same timing and arranges and displays a plurality of images in which the area of interest synchronously moves at the same speed in response to the designation of the scanning processing by said scanning processing designating section.~~

14. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said data obtaining section obtains a radiation image as said medical image.

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CAL 15. (Currently Amended) An image processing method ~~for subjecting to~~ subject a medical image to an image processing by using a photography device, comprising steps of:

storing an image processing condition ~~for~~ subjecting the medical image to the image processing in accordance with a type of the photography device ~~type~~ and a photography condition when the medical image is obtained; and

obtaining the medical image, and the type of the photography device ~~type~~ and the photography condition when the medical image is obtained, and subjecting the obtained medical image to the image processing in accordance with the image processing condition for the same type of the photography device ~~type~~ and the same photography condition as the obtained type of the photography device ~~type~~ and the obtained photography condition.

16. (Currently Amended) An image processing program storage medium in which an image processing program ~~for operating to operate~~ a computer system as an image processing apparatus ~~for to~~ subjecting a medical image to an image processing by using a photography device is stored, wherein said image processing program comprises:

a data obtaining section ~~for~~ obtaining the medical image, and a type of the photography device ~~type~~ and a photography condition when the medical image is obtained; and

an image processing section ~~for~~ subjecting the medical image obtained by said data obtaining section to the image processing in accordance with an image processing condition for the same type of the photography device ~~type~~ and the same photography condition as the type

of the photography device ~~type~~ and the photography condition obtained by the data obtaining section.

17. (New) An image processing apparatus for processing a medical image, comprising:

an image processing condition table, having indices of parts of a body and types of photography devices used to image medical images, to store and output an image processing condition; and

an image processor to enhance the medical image based on the image processing condition stored in the image processing condition table.

18. (New) An image processing method of processing a medical image, comprising: storing an image processing condition in a table having indices of parts of a body and types of a photography devices used to image medical images; and

subjecting the medical image to processing based on the stored image processing condition.

19. (New) An image processing program in which an image processing program operates on a computer system by:

storing an image processing condition in a table having indices of parts of a body and types of a photography devices used to image medical images; and

subjecting the medical image to processing based on the stored image processing condition.
